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Control: 11154
Rec'd: February 17, 1961
4:30 P.M.

E MESSAGE CENTER CONTROL FEB 21 1961

FEB 28 1961 IH

FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1512, February 17, 7 P.M.

SENT DEPARTMENT 1512; REPEATED INFORMATION PARIS 4054

PARIS PASS CIVIL AIR ATTACHE

Department telegram 1503. should be Dept. 1/31/61. 1503 was E. Hotel 2/15/61.

Embassy officer informed by K.H. Hummel, Boeing permanent technical representative stationed Brussels, that Boeing safety investigator Prater Hogue, Aerodynamist John Dorn, test pilot Don Knutson and engineering control expert Roger Chandler arriving Brussels February 17 to aid in investigation Sabena 707 crash.

According Hummel, jet which crashed arrived Belgium February 1960. Underwent first major overhaul (3,000 hours) only two weeks ago, at which time French manufactured flight recorder installed. Since then plane had flown 35 hours up to time of crash. Hummel informed by Sabena that flight recorder tape burned in crash, although he believes metallic tape used.

At first Hummel feared Boeing would encounter difficulties in participating in crash investigation, but yesterday authorities proved cooperative and he expects Boeing experts should have little trouble. Embassy has informed Hummel it will do whatever possible help Boeing Representatives if future difficulties develop with Belgian authorities.

Causes crash not yet clear. Almost all observers report plane went into serious violent manoeuvres before last dive, more suitable for fighter plane or test hop than commercial flight.

[redacted]

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ACTION ASSIGNED TO.	ACTION TAKEN	
E/TCC/AV	Telephoned Mr. Barrina	
NAME OF OFFICER & OFFICE SYMBOL: G Parros AV	DATE OF ACTION: 2/21/61	DIRECTIONS TO RM/R: File.

REVIEWED BY D Zachmey DATE 5/18/83

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE ____ TS AUTH. ____ E.O. ____ ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐ DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐ RELEASE DENIED ☐ PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS 552(b)(3) 1-3(a)(5) in part #552(b)(1) E.O.12356 1-3(a)(5) #552(b)(5)

FILED MAY 1 4 27 PM '61

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE 1961 FEB 20 AM 7 45

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[redacted] Embassy unable at this point evaluate foregoing.

Embassy informed investigation crash to be undertaken by: Boeing Representatives, Sabena Representatives and SMV (Service des Materiels de Vol) which licenses planes in Belgium, all three as interested parties. Professor aerodynamics Liege University heads two-man team which represents disinterested element.

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